

# 2023 ANNUAL REPORT



The Rural Violent Crime Reduction Initiative Microgrant Program



National Policing Institute



*Rural*  
VIOLENT CRIME  
REDUCTION INITIATIVE



## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>1</b>	<b>EXECUTIVE SUMMARY</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>AWARD AND ADMINISTER GRANTS</b>
2	IMPLEMENT A GRANT ELIGIBILITY APPLICATION AND SELECTION PROCESS
6	CONTINUE OUTREACH EFFORTS AROUND THE PROGRAM AND LESSONS LEARNED
8	COORDINATE AWARD SELECTION AND NOTIFICATION
<b>11</b>	<b>ASSIST GRANTEEES IN THE DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF RURAL VIOLENT CRIME REDUCTION PLANS</b>
11	ASSIST GRANTEEES WITH ACHIEVING OBJECTIVES AND DELIVERABLES
17	ENCOURAGE PEER NETWORKING AMONG GRANTEEES AND OTHER AGENCIES
<b>18</b>	<b>ASSESS THE IMPACT AND OUTCOMES OF RURAL VIOLENT CRIME REDUCTION PLANS</b>
29	COMPILE METRICS TO DETERMINE PROGRAM IMPACT
<b>30</b>	<b>RVCRI-SUPPORTED AGENCIES</b>
<b>31</b>	<b>THE PATH FORWARD</b>

This report is funded through Grant No. 15PBJA-21-GK-03942-RURA from the Bureau of Justice Assistance, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice. The opinions, findings, and conclusions or recommendations expressed in this material are those of the contributors and do not necessarily represent the official position or policies of the U.S. Department of Justice.

# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

During the 2023 calendar year, the Rural Violent Crime Reduction Initiative (RVCRI) team, funded by the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) and supported by the National Policing Institute (NPI), the Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC), and NPI's partner, the Small and Rural Law Enforcement Executives Association (SRLEEA), planned, launched, marketed, and closed the second RVCRI grant application cohort. The RVCRI team also provided training and technical assistance (TTA) support to **13** existing BJA grantees and **32** micrograntees.

Throughout 2023, the RVCRI team worked closely with rural law enforcement agencies to enhance and update the application process, ensuring that it was comprehensive, accessible, and user-friendly, and provided tailored TTA support throughout the process.

The following report highlights the work that NPI, as a part of the broader RVCRI team, conducted to award and administer grants that support rural violent crime reduction plans, assist RVCRI grantees in developing and implementing those strategies, and assess the outcomes and impact of those efforts.<sup>1</sup> The report is organized according to the RVCRI program objectives outlined in the collaborative agreement.

## 2023 HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE:

- Received nearly **100** RVCRI applications for microgrant funding.
- Awarded over **\$3.3 million** in microgrant funding to **32** agencies.
- Marketed the RVCRI program and application through social media, newsletters, listservs, conference attendances, and memberships, reaching over **21,000** individuals.
- Participated in **14** interest calls and responded to **172** interest emails.
- Facilitated **24** customized TTA engagements, and provided management support through check-in calls with **13** BJA-direct funded agencies and **32** micrograntees.
- Updated and maintained a website and resource directory that reached over **5,500** users and had over **16,000** pageviews—with more than **140** new Application Portal accounts created.
- Developed **nine** deliverables to assist with the application process and grant management activities related to the RVCRI.
- Hosted or participated in **two** orientation events, **one** solicitation webinar, **one** office hours event, **three** webinars, and **four** Rural Roundtables, reaching nearly **500** attendees.
- Attended **four** conferences to support RVCRI grantee attendance and gather knowledge and resources for those unable to attend.

<sup>1</sup> This report only highlights the work of NPI and SRLEEA as NPI's partner, as a part of the RVCRI team. LISC data is not included in this report.

# AWARD AND ADMINISTER GRANTS

The RVCRI team successfully awarded and onboarded the first cohort of micrograntees, launched and marketed the second RVCRI Application Portal and process, developed resources and guidelines for applicants, and created internal procedures and parameters for reviewing applications and awarding grants. As a result of these efforts, the RVCRI team:

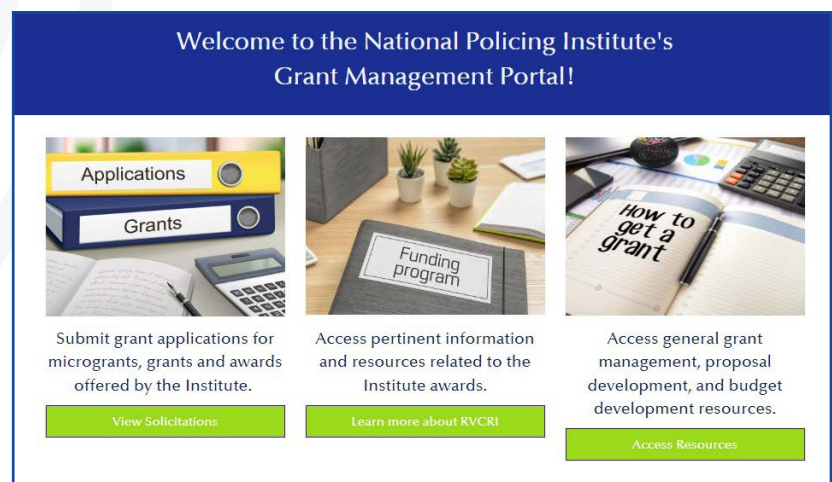
- Awarded **25** microgrants in the first application cohort, totaling **\$2,634,931.77** in microgrant funding.
- Received **92** RVCRI applications for the second application cohort, **71** of which were eligible for review.
- Awarded **seven** microgrants in the second application cohort, totaling **\$686,715.42** in microgrant funding.
- Developed **one** application resource and conducted an Application Experience Survey for interested applicants.
- Marketed the RVCRI program and application through social media, newsletters, conferences, listservs, and memberships, reaching over **21,000** individuals.
- Participated in **14** interest calls and responded to **172** interest emails.

Since this is the first large-scale grant funding program for rural violent crime reduction, the RVCRI team strived for a streamlined, accessible application process, which the RVCRI team feels was achieved based on the positive feedback received from the field.

## IMPLEMENT A GRANT ELIGIBILITY APPLICATION AND SELECTION PROCESS

Throughout the first half of 2023, the RVCRI team marketed, reviewed, and awarded the first and second RVCRI application cohorts. In addition to processes, protocols, and resources developed in the latter half of 2022, the RVCRI team also developed an **RVCRI Application Scoring Rubric** to help potential applicants understand how proposal narratives would be scored and weighted.

In 2023, **141** new Application Portal accounts were created, bringing the total number of Application Portal accounts to **364**. NPI's robust Application Portal serves as a one-stop shop for all RVCRI application needs. It allows users to submit applications, access resources, save in-progress applications, contact the RVCRI team through a chatbot, and track application statuses. The RVCRI team also ensured responsiveness to application-related questions through emails or phone calls. This hands-on support



National Policing Institute's Grant Management Portal

**“The assistance I received was very helpful. I was very happy to see the process simplified and easy to understand. It is extremely hard for a smaller agency to compete with larger agencies, we don’t have the staff, resources and grant writers to effectively compete. Thank you for allowing us this opportunity! The RVCRI website and application portal are both well-designed and helpful.”**

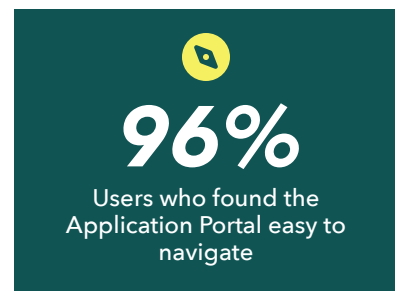
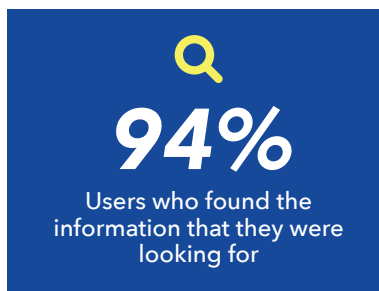
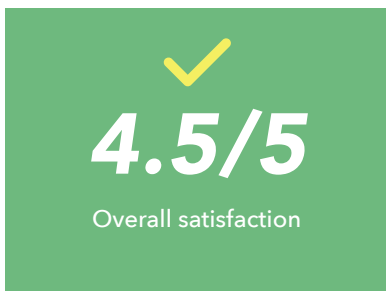
**– ELIZABETHTON, TENNESSEE POLICE DEPARTMENT**

allowed the RVCRI team to connect and establish trust with agencies that contributed to further success once awards were announced.

### **APPLICATION EXPERIENCE SURVEY**

In January 2023, after the first application cohort closed and before award notifications were sent out, the RVCRI team conducted an Application Experience Survey. The purpose of this survey was to gauge users’ experiences and obtain feedback on the Application Portal and interactions with the RVCRI team throughout the application process. The survey included questions about ease of navigation, availability of information and features, and RVCRI team access and response. Survey respondents could also provide open-ended feedback at the end of the survey.

#### **OVERALL, THE APPLICATION PORTAL RECEIVED VERY POSITIVE FEEDBACK:**



All users who interacted with the RVCRI team during the application process felt the assistance was helpful.

As a result of feedback obtained through the Application Experience Survey, the RVCRI team increased the proposal narrative length from a maximum of four pages to six pages and enlarged the Save Application feature.

**“I had the pleasure of dealing with [the RVCRI team]. [The team] was very understanding and extremely helpful in explaining the particulars of this grant. I wish I had this service for other grants I have applied for. In my opinion [the RVCRI team] is a very good advocate for the applicant (me) and the RVCRI.”**

**– EDGERTON, WISCONSIN POLICE DEPARTMENT**

## APPLICATION COHORT II

The second application cohort closed on March 31, 2023, and the RVCRI team received nearly **100** applications. Of those, **71** were complete and eligible for review,<sup>2</sup> totaling **\$6,906,548.33** in requested funding. These applications covered a variety of topics:

**13**

Automated License Plate Readers (ALPRs)

**29**

School Resource Officer (SRO), Prosecution, Investigations, and Crime Analysis Staffing Enhancements

**14**

Training

**10**

Digital Forensic Extraction Software and Equipment

**10**

Evidence Collection Equipment

**8**

Mobile Data Terminals (MDTs)

**2**

Education and Prevention Programs

**5**

Illicit Substance Detection Devices

**9**

Surveillance Cameras

### Applicants proposed to address a variety of rural violent crime challenges, such as:

- ★ Narcotics-related Violent Crime
- ★ Sexual Assaults
- ★ Child Abuse and Exploitation
- ★ Intimate Partner Violence (IPV)
- ★ Gang-related Violent Crime
- ★ Human Trafficking
- ★ Firearm-related Violent Crime
- ★ Assaults
- ★ School Violence

<sup>2</sup> Eligible for review means that all application materials were received and no unallowable expenditures were requested.

## APPLICATIONS RECEIVED BY AGENCY TYPE

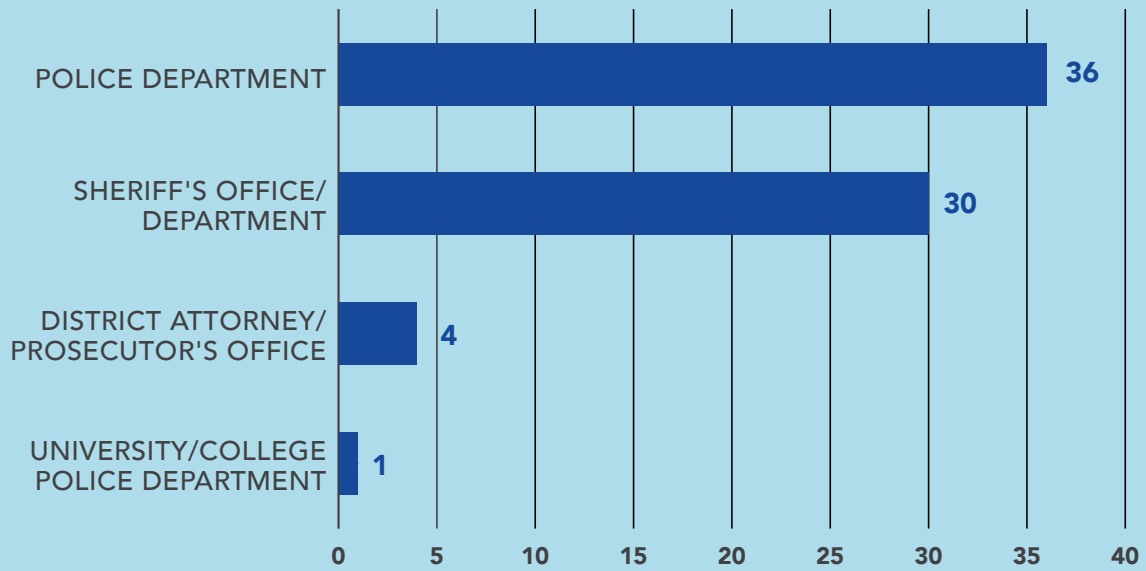


Figure 1. Eligible Cohort II RVCRI Applications Received by Agency Type

## APPLICATIONS RECEIVED BY STATE

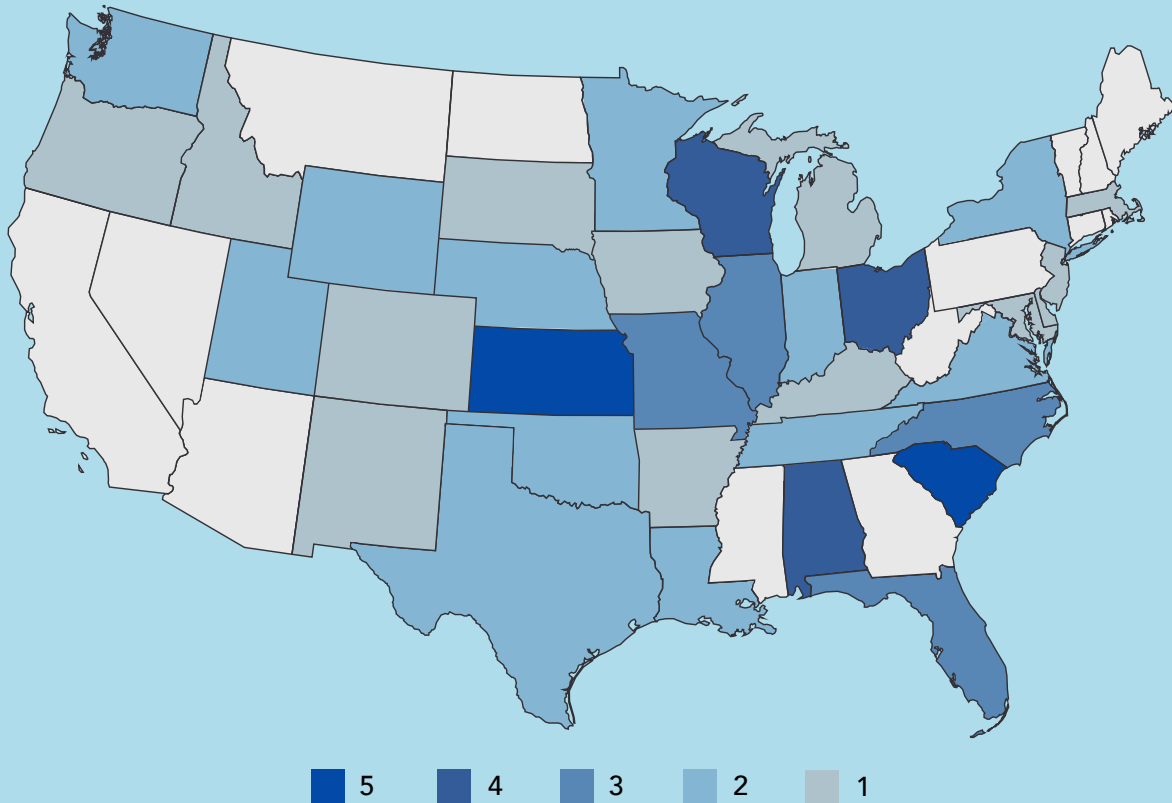


Figure 2. Eligible Cohort II RVCRI Applications Received by State

## CONTINUE OUTREACH EFFORTS AROUND THE PROGRAM AND LESSONS LEARNED

### MARKETING

The RVCRI team widely marketed the RVCRI program and grant application window through social media, newsletters, events, listservs, conference attendance, website banners, and SRLEEA membership. Content encompassed general program information, application deadlines, and upcoming events. These efforts included:

- **75** emails to state associations of chiefs of police and sheriffs' associations.
- **115** social media posts on Facebook, LinkedIn, and Twitter, that sent **492** users to the RVCRI website.
- **14** newsletter promotions by NPI and SRLEEA, reaching nearly **20,000** individuals.
- **Four** conference attendances, including the Rural TTA Providers Meeting, the SRLEEA Annual Conference, the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) Conference, and the BJA Violent Crime Reduction Summit.
- Hosting **one** solicitation webinar and **one** office hours event, reaching **55** attendees.

As a result of this marketing, the RVCRI received increased traffic to the RVCRI website, discussed in detail on page **14**, and the Application Portal. The RVCRI team responded to **172** interest emails and participated in **14** interest calls with potential applicants. This volume of interaction highlights the need to provide assistance and TTA around grant program application overviews, processes, and requirements. These calls and emails included questions about:

- Program overview and eligibility.
- Application requirements and reviews.
- Allowable expenses.
- Solicitation webinar and office hours events.
- Technical troubleshooting.
- Confirmation of application receipt.
- Re-application allowability.
- Application examples.
- Topical webinars.
- Match funding requirements.
- Award notifications.
- Application feedback.
- Future application cohort deadlines.

The RVCRI team saw considerable success from the marketing efforts for the second application cohort. The team will continue these efforts for future cohorts while building upon them through other organizations, platforms, and strategies. In 2024, the RVCRI team will produce a highlight reel showcasing the impact that several RVCRI microgrants have had in rural communities through crime reduction efforts.

### SOLICITATION WEBINAR AND OFFICE HOURS EVENTS

The RVCRI team hosted a solicitation webinar on February 23, 2023, to provide an overview of the RVCRI grant application requirements and process. In attendance were **48** individuals representing **38** agencies. While the Q&A portion of the event was scheduled for nearly 30 minutes, the RVCRI team could not answer all participant questions, so an office hours event was hosted on March 23, 2023. This event was an open Q&A opportunity for potential applicants to ask questions about the RVCRI program, ranging from inquiries about application requirements to grantee responsibilities. During this event, the RVCRI team was able to answer an additional **10** questions for the **seven** agencies in attendance.

Because of the success of these events, the RVCRI team will host similar events for future application cohorts.





## CONFERENCE ATTENDANCE

Throughout 2023, the RVCRI team attended various conferences and meetings to market the RVCRI program, gather knowledge and resources for RVCRI grantees, and meet with other rural TTA providers to ensure that resources were coordinated and focused to meet rural agencies' needs.

# 2023

## MARCH

### RURAL TTA PROVIDERS MEETING

The RVCRI team attended a Rural TTA Providers Meeting with **14** other TTA providers to coordinate TTA efforts and resource development activities.

## JULY

### SMALL & RURAL LAW ENFORCEMENT EXECUTIVES ASSOCIATION ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The RVCRI team and one of its grantees, the Franklin County, Virginia, Sheriff's Office, presented a session on the use of technology in rural agencies to over **50** attendees.

## OCTOBER

### INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF CHIEFS OF POLICE ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The RVCRI team attended the IACP Annual Conference to gather knowledge and resources for RVCRI grantees who could not attend the event. For those who could attend, the RVCRI team hosted an informal networking lunch, allowing **three** grantees and RVCRI subject matter experts (SMEs) to meet and discuss challenges and best practices related to violent crime reduction.

## DECEMBER

### BUREAU OF JUSTICE ASSISTANCE VIOLENT CRIME REDUCTION SUMMIT

The RVCRI team supported **seven** grantees to attend the Violent Crime Reduction Summit. This event convened stakeholders (e.g., U.S. Attorney's Offices, state and local law enforcement agencies, local prosecutor offices, community-based partners, federal law enforcement partners, and other criminal justice partners) from the National Public Safety Partnership (PSP) and Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN) programs; representatives from small, rural, and tribal agencies; DOJ officials, and SMEs to discuss promising practices in violent crime reduction. The RVCRI team also hosted a booth at the event to share RVCRI program information.

## COORDINATE AWARD SELECTION AND NOTIFICATION

The RVCRI team finalized and released the [Grantee Financial Guidelines](#), which provide NPI-funded grantees with the requirements, documentation, and process for submitting an invoice for reimbursement and submitting a Change Request Form if an update is needed for the scope of work, budget, or performance period.

The RVCRI team coordinated the award selection and notification processes to ensure that agencies were not awarded multiple RVCRI awards and that reviewing criteria were similar while meeting organization-specific requirements. The RVCRI team employed a three-person review team that reported funding recommendations to two internal senior-level staff members to ensure agreement before reviewing funding decisions with BJA.

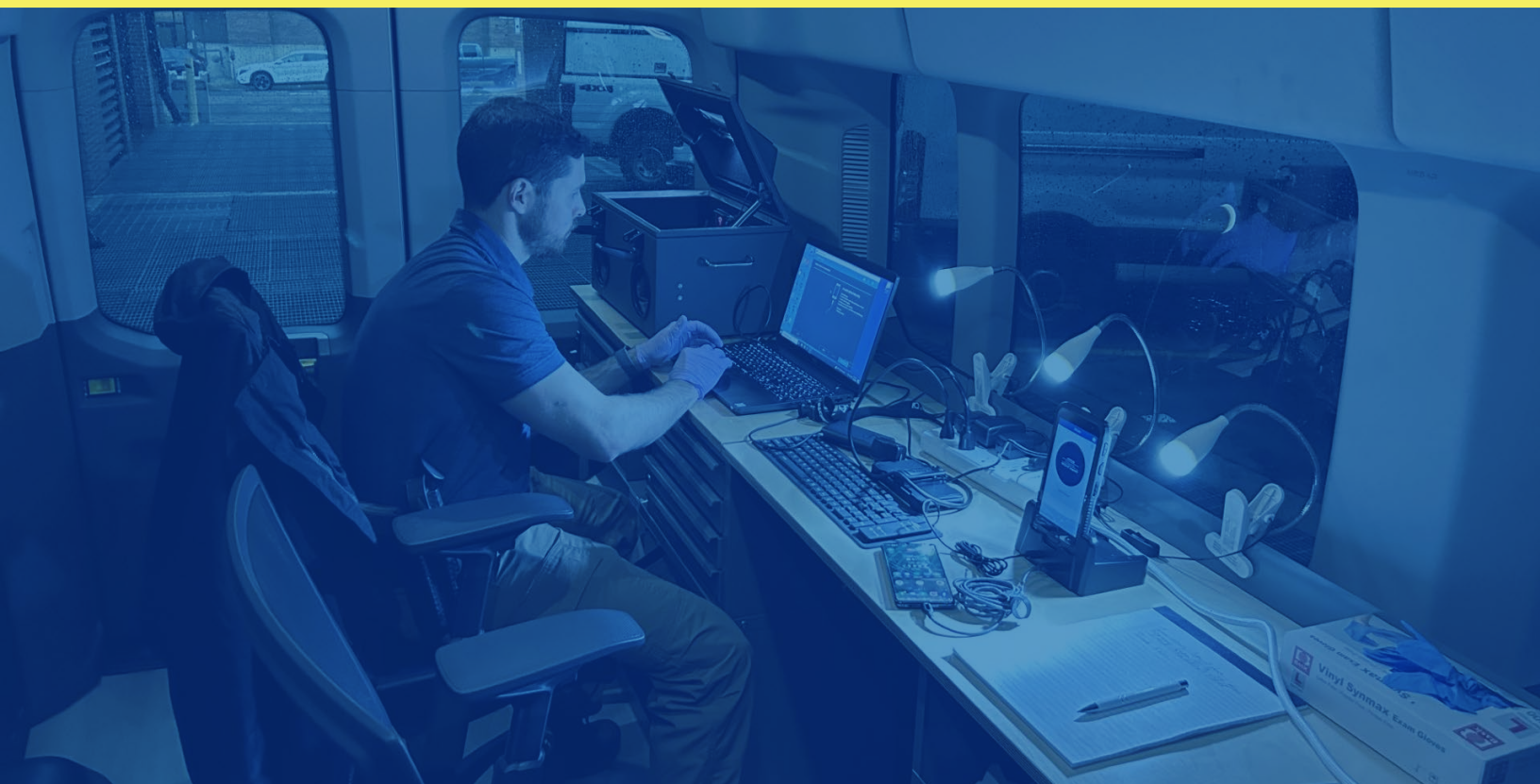
Throughout 2023, the RVCRI team awarded **32** microgrants to agencies, totaling **\$3,321,647.19**. These agencies represent police departments, sheriff's offices, district attorney/prosecutor's offices, state agencies, university/college police departments, and tribal agencies across **24** states.

### APPLICATION COHORT I

Of the **26** RVCRI applications recommended for funding, **25** were accepted by agencies, totaling **\$2,634,931.77**.

The RVCRI team held a virtual orientation session on February 16, 2023. The virtual orientation session brought Cohort I micrograntees together to provide the following:

- RVCRI program overview and team introduction.
- General RVCRI program requirements and grantee responsibilities.
- Organization-specific orientation breakout rooms.
- Questions and answers.
- Opportunity to meet RVCRI peers.



## ACCEPTED APPLICATIONS BY AGENCY TYPE

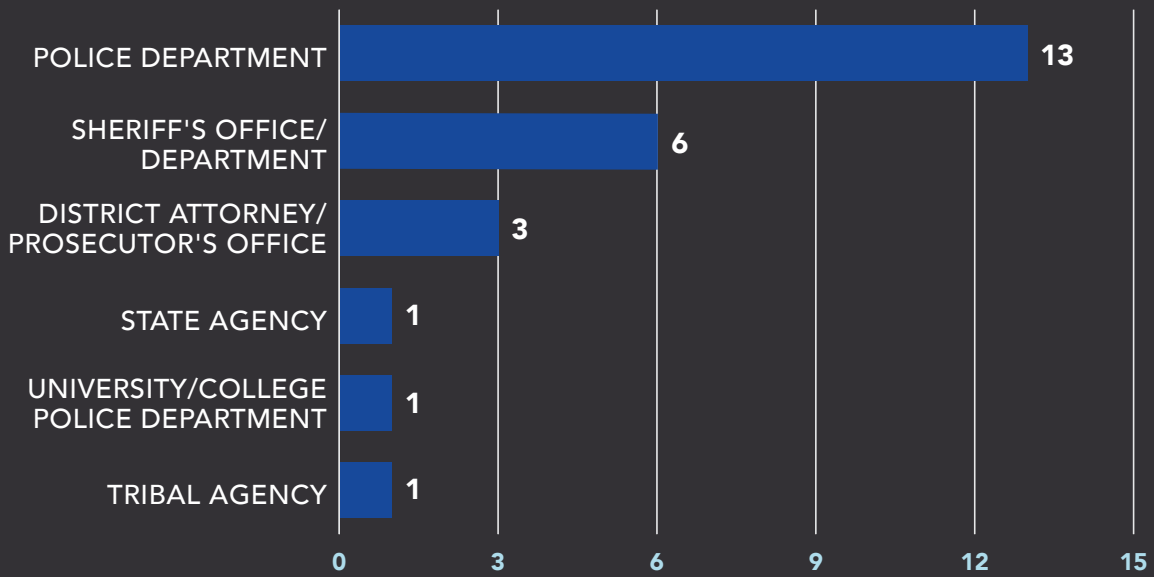


Figure 3. Cohort I RVCRI Applications Accepted by Agency Type

## ACCEPTED APPLICATIONS BY STATE

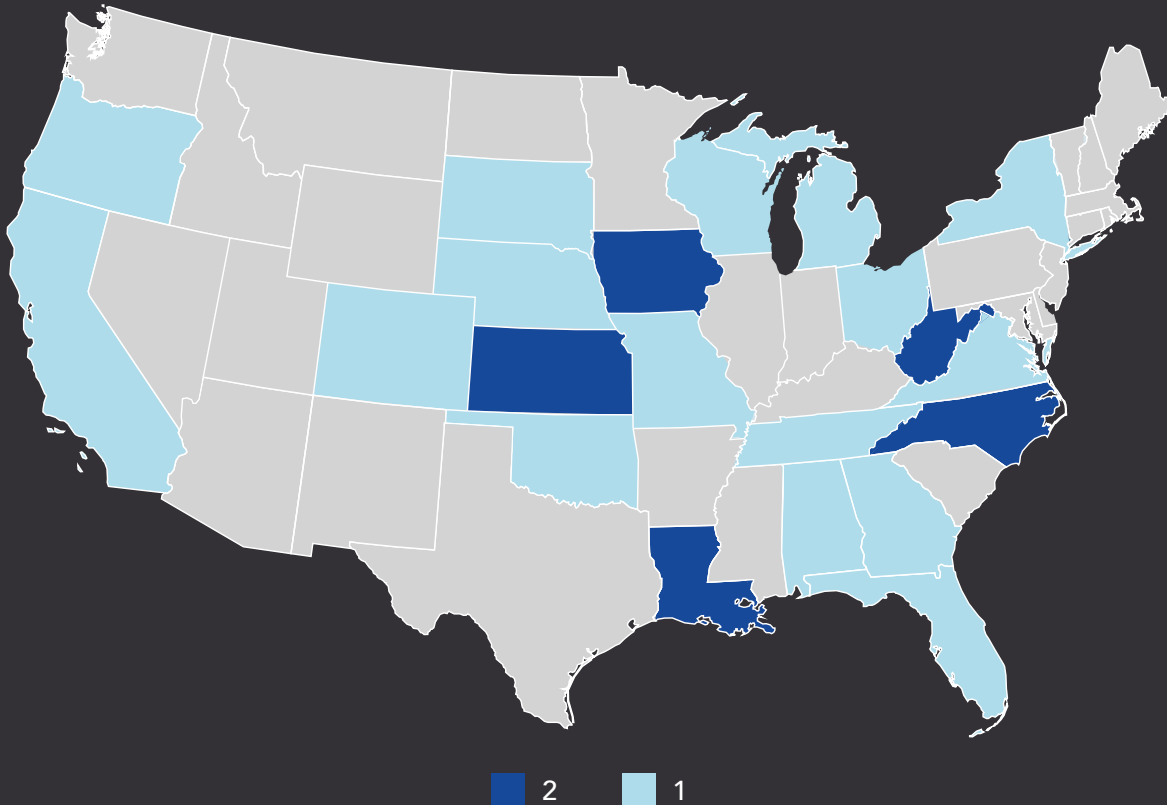


Figure 4. Cohort I RVCRI Applications Accepted by State

## APPLICATION COHORT II

Of the **71** completed RVCRI applications reviewed in the second application cohort, **eight** were recommended to BJA for funding, and **seven** were accepted by agencies totaling **\$686,715.42**.

### ACCEPTED APPLICATIONS BY AGENCY TYPE

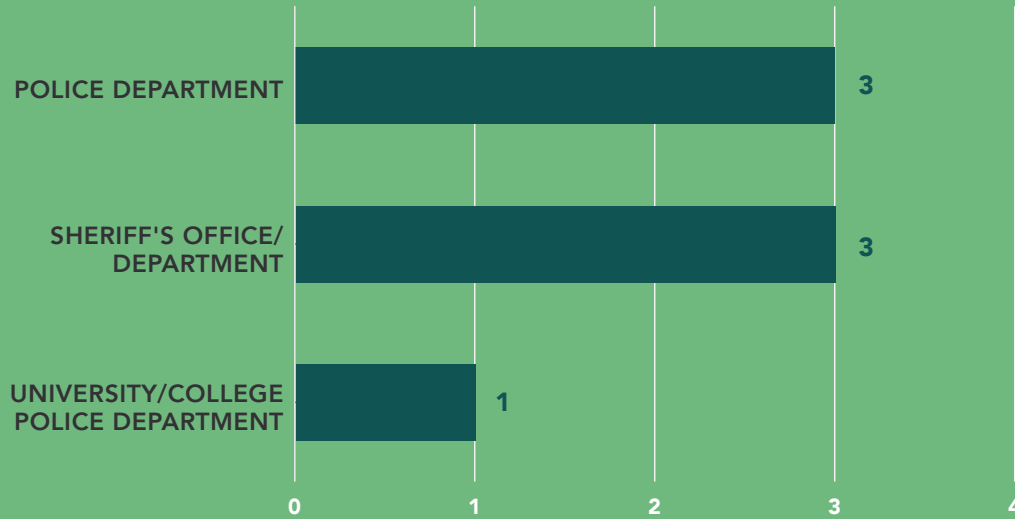


Figure 5. Cohort II RVCRI Applications Accepted by Agency Type

### ACCEPTED APPLICATIONS BY STATE

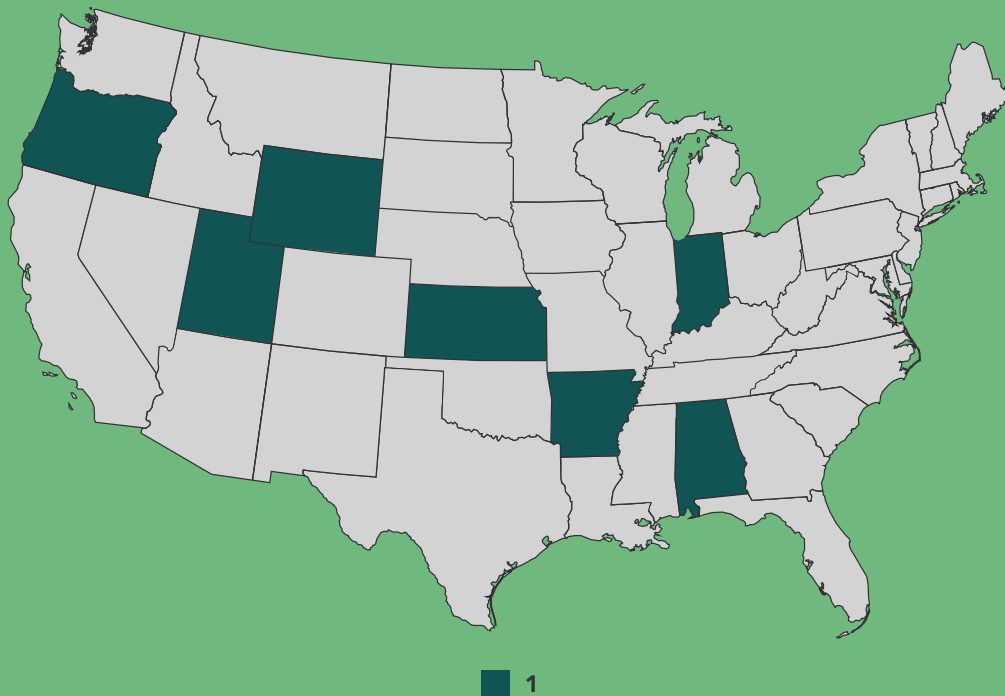


Figure 6. Cohort II RVCRI Applications Accepted by State

Following the February 2023 model, the RVCRI team held a virtual orientation session on May 18, 2023.

## APPLICATION FEEDBACK

After each application cohort, the RVCRI team offered to provide written feedback to applicants on their applications if requested. In total, **46** agencies (**37%**) contacted the RVCRI team for this feedback. Providing this feedback allowed many agencies to strengthen their applications, resulting in a successful proposal during the second application cohort. This feedback may also be applicable to other grant and proposal opportunities the agency may pursue.

# ASSIST GRANTEES IN THE DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF RURAL VIOLENT CRIME REDUCTION PLANS

Throughout 2023, the RVCRI team provided TTA engagements and direct support to the BJA-directly funded RVCRI grantees and micrograntees. In addition to regular check-in calls with the grantees, the team delivered **24** site-specific TTA engagements—**three** of which were in progress at the time of this report's publication—to several agencies. These TTA engagements included reviewing policies and protocols, providing resources on various topics, initial planning for problem-oriented policing (POP) training and program implementation, supporting training and event attendance, and more. In addition to site-specific work with grantees, the RVCRI team also continued to enhance the RVCRI website ([WWW.RURALVCRI.ORG](http://WWW.RURALVCRI.ORG)), adding resources and hosting webinars for all rural law enforcement agencies and their partners to access.

## ASSIST GRANTEES WITH ACHIEVING OBJECTIVES AND DELIVERABLES

### TTA ENGAGEMENTS AND DIRECT SUPPORT

The RVCRI team assembled a cadre of SMEs to respond to and assist RVCRI grantees with implementing their rural violent crime reduction plans. This SME pool will continue to expand as RVCRI grantees address additional topics and the team receives new TTA requests. The RVCRI team will coordinate with other TTA providers to ensure the most robust SME pool is available to grantees.

In the summer of 2023, the RVCRI team assigned SMEs to work with each RVCRI grantee so that each agency received consistent and expert support in their program implementations. These SMEs are current or former law enforcement and criminal justice practitioners with experience working in rural agencies to ensure that all recommendations and support were provided with rural considerations. Assigning an SME with experience working in rural settings helped build trust and increase buy-in from the grantees, ultimately furthering program success.

Throughout 2023, the RVCRI team participated in check-in calls with sites to discuss implementation progress, successes realized, challenges overcome, TTA requests and opportunities, and any related questions that grantees had. These check-in calls also served as a mechanism to collect and track metrics and impact stories related to each agency's violent crime reduction plan.

In addition to check-in calls, the RVCRI team also delivered **24** TTA engagements—**three** of which were in progress at the time of this report’s publication—to several grantees, including:

- **FORENSIC EXTRACTION SOFTWARE POLICY SAMPLES** – The RVCRI team provided multiple agencies with sample forensic extraction software policies to guide them as they began the policy and procedure development process. Some of these samples were specifically designed for use in a mobile environment.
- **ALPR POLICY AND PRESS RELEASE SAMPLES** – The RVCRI team provided multiple agencies with sample ALPR policies to begin the policy and procedure development process. Press release samples were also included to assist agencies with informing their communities of the new technology.

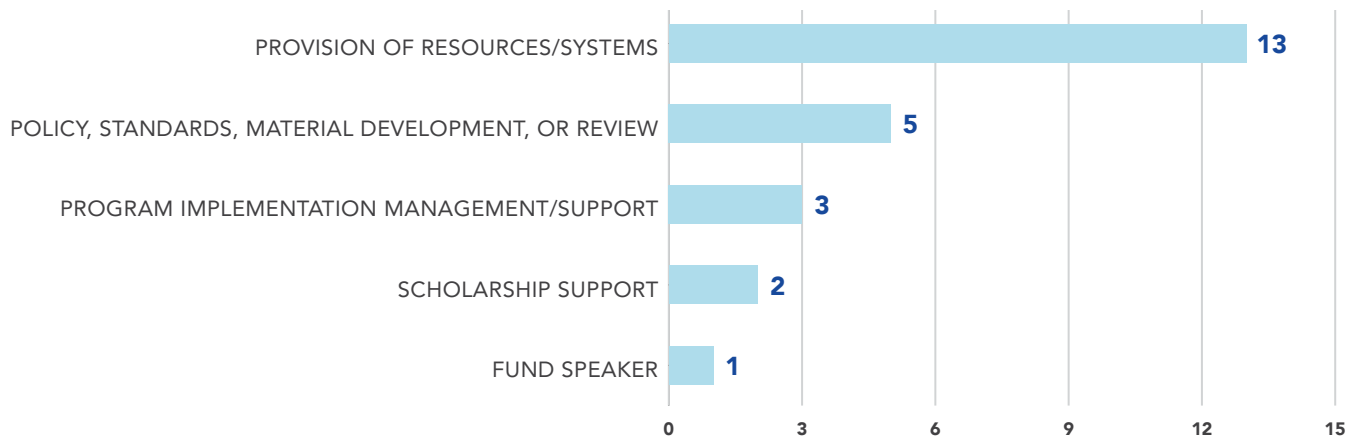


Figure 7. TTA Type

- **SEXUAL ASSAULT INVESTIGATOR TRAINING** – In partnership with the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center (FLETC), the RVCRI team supported two agencies—the Crawford County, Wisconsin, Sheriff’s Office and the Tremonton-Garland, Utah, Police Department—to attend the two-week-long FLETC Sexual Assault Investigator Training Program (SAITP). SAITP is designed to provide agents and investigators with a wide range of strategies and skills they can employ to conduct compassionate, multi-disciplinary, victim-centered investigations into adult sexual assaults. Through the extensive use of case studies, students explore a variety of topics, including dynamics of sexual assault, interviewing techniques, case organization, collaboration, critical thinking and decision-making, cognitive biases, digital evidence acquisition, and the role of physical and corroborative evidence. The program also addresses investigative challenges presented by incapacitation and issues of consent, “stale” crime scenes or delayed reporting, same-sex sexual assault, special populations, and acquaintance or domestic relationships between the victim and offender. As a result of this training, the two investigators took vital skill sets back to their departments, including enhanced crime scene documentation capabilities and interviewing techniques.
- **CRIME SCENE EQUIPMENT POLICY REVIEW** – The RVCRI team reviewed a 3D Scanner policy for the Lee County, Iowa, Sheriff’s Office to ensure it incorporated promising practices related to crime scene documentation equipment policies.
- **DRUG DETECTION EQUIPMENT POLICY SAMPLES** – The RVCRI team provided the Ashe County, North Carolina, Sheriff’s Office with sample drug detection equipment policies to begin the policy and procedure development process.




- **EVIDENCE MANAGEMENT POLICY REVIEW** – The RVCRI team reviewed the evidence management policy for the Comanche County, Kansas, Sheriff’s Office to ensure that it incorporated promising practices related to evidence management and retention.
- **SRO MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU) REVIEW** – The RVCRI team reviewed the SRO MOU for the Tremonton-Garland, Utah, Police Department to ensure that it met promising practices related to SRO deployments in school settings.
- **AUTOMATED EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATOR (AED) POLICY SAMPLES** – The RVCRI team provided the Hancock County, Tennessee, Sheriff’s Office with sample AED policies to begin the policy and procedure development process.



**FROM THE FIELD  
BJA VIOLENT CRIME  
REDUCTION SUMMIT**

The RVCRI team supported **nine** individuals from **seven** agencies in attending the BJA Violent Crime Reduction Summit. This event brought together nearly **1,500** attendees to examine violence reduction strategies and enhance public safety. While there, RVCRI grantees were also able to have a roundtable with BJA Director Karhlton Moore.



**FROM THE FIELD  
ASHLAND, ALABAMA**

The RVCRI team is working with the Ashland, Alabama, Police Department to host a POP training and implement a POP project. This will include scanning and identifying a challenge through data analysis, analyzing data from various sources, conducting field observations, responding to the identified challenge, and assessing whether the strategy was effective. The RVCRI team and SME Julie Wartell will be onsite in Ashland from January 2 – 5, 2024.

Examples of implementation support and TTA provision and their associated outcomes can be found in the call-out boxes in this section and the **Assess the Impact and Outcomes of Rural Violent Crime Reduction Plans** section of this report. The RVCRI team will continue identifying TTA opportunities as grantees progress in their implementation plans. These TTA opportunities may be customized to a specific agency or be broader to benefit multiple grantees and non-grantees.

#### **TRAINING AND EVENT SUPPORT**

In the last quarter of 2023, the RVCRI team allocated funding to support existing RVCRI grantees to attend conferences and training events. To maximize its impact, the RVCRI team solicited feedback on the types

of training and events RVCRI grantees would like to attend through a Conference/Training Event Scholarship Support Interest Survey. This survey allowed grantees to rank almost **20** pre-selected conferences and training events from most beneficial to their agency to least beneficial. This survey was closed on November 17, 2023.

In 2024, the RVCRI team will open a Conference/Training Event Scholarship Support Application for RVCRI grantees to apply for scholarship support to attend the conferences and training events approved by BJA based on the Conference/Training Event Scholarship Support Interest Survey. This application will ask grantees to outline how the conference or training event will enhance or further their violent crime reduction plans, whom they would send to the training, and why that individual is the best individual to attend the event on behalf of their agency.

### **FEDERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT TRAINING CENTER PARTNERSHIP**

In addition to the training and event scholarship support effort noted above, in October 2023, the RVCRI team established a partnership with FLETC to support and expand no-cost training opportunities for rural departments across the country. Through this partnership, the RVCRI team and FLETC will schedule and host a training dedicated to RVCRI grantees and facilitate the hosting of trainings in more rural settings across the country.

FLETC has also allocated training spots to RVCRI grantees for scheduled trainings when available. See the [TTA Engagements and Direct Support](#) section for a specific example. Through this partnership, the RVCRI team and FLETC have already provided over **\$8,000** in training to rural departments.

### **RVCRI WEBSITE**

Finally, the RVCRI team continued to add new deliverables and resources and conduct updates to the RVCRI website ([WWW.RURALVCRI.ORG](http://WWW.RURALVCRI.ORG)). This website is meant to act as a conduit and resource for RVCRI applicants and as an online training and resources directory specific to rural law enforcement, district attorney's offices, and partners. The website houses all RVCRI resources, including webinars, guides, checklists, and fact sheets. It also includes resources developed by other organizations, such as SRLEEA, the National Sheriffs' Association (NSA), IACP, and others that are relevant to rural law enforcement agencies, district attorney's offices, and partners. The RVCRI team added **86** new resources to the website in 2023, including grantee site profiles, webinars, Rural Roundtables, reports, and upcoming events and trainings.



#### **PAGES WITH MOST VIEWS\***

RVCRI Application: **4,015**

About the Initiative: **920**

FAQs: **502**

Clearinghouse: **460**

News and Announcements: **302**


\* Not including Home Page




Throughout 2023, the RVCRI website reached over **5,500** users, resulting in over **16,000** page views. On average, users accessed the RVCRI website for approximately **12** minutes per session, with most users coming from Washington, Virginia, Wyoming, Texas, and New York.



**5,500**  
users



**16,000+**  
pageviews



**12 MINUTES**  
average visit length  
per session

Due to the number of TTA requests involving policy samples, the RVCRI team is developing an online Policy Guidance and Repository. This resource will contain best practice guidance on policy development for identified topic areas and samples of policies compiled from small and rural agencies across the country. The RVCRI team hopes to release this resource in the spring/summer of 2024.

Additional deliverables and website updates will continue to be developed and disseminated as new needs and areas of interest are identified by grantees and the RVCRI team. The RVCRI team is considering developing self-paced learning modules as a resource for the website.



### TOP DOWNLOADS

RVCRI Solicitation Materials: **394**

Application Portal User Guide: **123**

RVCRI Application Scoring Rubric: **102**

RVCRI Application Scratch Budget  
Worksheet: **99**

Application Proposal Narrative  
Template: **84**



## WEBINARS

The RVCRI team held **three** webinars, reaching more than **180** agencies, in 2023:

# 2023

## JUNE

### JUSTICE CLEARINGHOUSE WEBINAR: RURAL VIOLENT CRIME REDUCTION INITIATIVE: DIMINISHING CRIME, ONE COMMUNITY AT A TIME

On Thursday, June 22, 2023, the RVCRI team participated in a Justice Clearinghouse Webinar. Violent crime is on the rise in many jurisdictions, including rural communities. Rural law enforcement agencies are left to tackle these issues, often with a decreasing tax base, personnel shortages, expansive geographic territory, and a lack of access to medical treatment that can turn violent crimes into fatal ones. During this webinar, attendees learned about the RVCRI, heard how the Frederick, Colorado, Police Department is using RVCRI funds to implement a multi-jurisdictional victim services program, and discovered best practices for violence reduction.

## JULY

### ESTABLISHING CONNECTIONS: INTEGRATING VICTIM SERVICES WITH RURAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES

On Thursday, July 6, 2023, the RVCRI hosted a webinar about providing victim services in rural communities, how to integrate victim services in daily criminal justice interactions, best practices for implementing a victim-centered approach, identifying partners and providers on a national and local level, and lessons learned.

## AUGUST

### HANDLING SENSITIVE INVESTIGATIONS IN RURAL COMMUNITIES: SEXUAL ASSAULT AND IPV CASES

On Thursday, August 17, 2023, the RVCRI hosted a webinar addressing strategies for handling sensitive investigations, such as sexual assault and IPV, in rural communities, best practices, and lessons learned. Attendees learned how to navigate “small town” relationships regarding sensitive investigations, conduct these investigations when various partners are involved, and implement a victim-centered and trauma-informed investigative approach.

The RVCRI team has **three** webinars scheduled throughout 2024. These webinars will focus on:



**SUSTAINABILITY  
PLANNING**



**CRIME DATA  
IN RURAL  
COMMUNITIES**



**AVAILABLE GRANT  
AND TRAINING  
RESOURCES FOR  
RURAL AGENCIES**

## ENCOURAGE PEER NETWORKING AMONG GRANTEES AND OTHER AGENCIES

In addition to grantee-specific TTA engagements, the RVCRI team hosted or participated in **four** Rural Roundtable events serving **107** individuals from RVCRI grantees. The Rural Roundtables allowed RVCRI grantees to connect and network with their peers in a facilitated format. These events were held quarterly. The 2023 Rural Roundtables focused on BJA grant management, narcotics trafficking, using data-driven strategies to address violent crime, and engaging with persons in crisis.

Given the success of the Rural Roundtables, the RVCRI team will continue to host them quarterly in 2024. Topic areas will focus on:



AUTHENTIC  
COMMUNITY  
OUTREACH AND  
ENGAGEMENT



EVIDENCE  
MANAGEMENT  
AND RETENTION



SUSTAINABILITY  
PLANNING



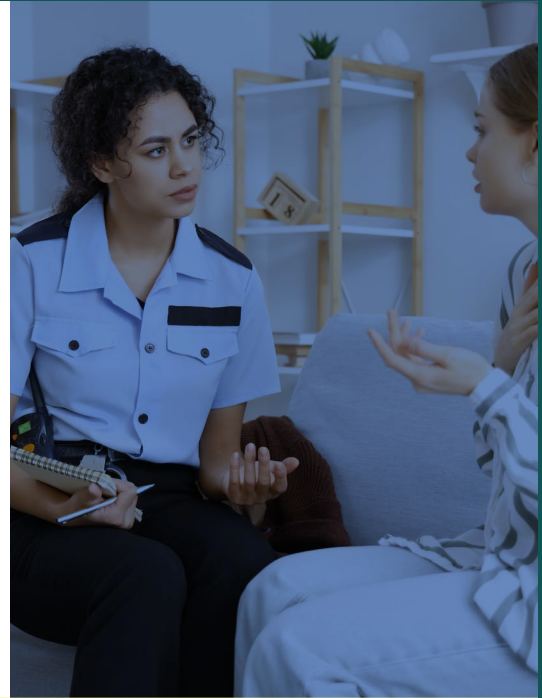
# ASSESS THE IMPACT AND OUTCOMES OF RURAL VIOLENT CRIME REDUCTION PLANS

The RVCRI program provided grantees with funding to address and reduce violent crime in their communities. Their plans ranged from purchasing evidence collection software and hardware to hiring personnel to aid these efforts. Each grantee has made great strides to create positive impacts in their communities. Two sites that have made significant impacts on reducing violent crime are highlighted below:



## FROM THE FIELD FREDERICK, COLORADO

With assistance from the RVCRI, the Frederick, Colorado, Police Department outlined a violent crime reduction plan to increase victim services and decrease repeat victimizations in the towns of Frederick, Firestone, Mead, and the City of Dacono by hiring a victim advocate who would help ensure the victim services unit is available 24-7. In 2023, Frederick provided services to **239** clients. The victim advocate's efforts have also improved connections between victims and law enforcement, allowing many victims to feel comfortable enough to file charges. Frederick has produced an outstanding impact on its community through its care and diligence in providing services to violent crime victims.



## FROM THE FIELD SMYTH COUNTY, VIRGINIA

Using RVCRI funding, the Smyth County, Virginia, Sheriff's Office established a Neighborhood Watch Program to deter violent crime, increase officer presence, and improve community safety and engagement. Smyth County has held **five** Neighborhood Watch Program events with **425** attendees. Since the program's implementation, crime at one of the hot spot areas was reduced by **50%**, and community members reported feeling safer. Community members have even developed a phone tree system to share information about suspicious activity with the sheriff's office. Smyth County plans to expand the Neighborhood Watch Program to other communities in the county in the upcoming year.

The following table outlines the progress and impact that RVCRI grantees have made on their rural violent crime reduction plans:

RVCRI SITE	FUNDING STREAM <sup>2</sup>	RURAL VIOLENT CRIME REDUCTION PLAN
17 <sup>TH</sup> JUDICIAL CIRCUIT COURT DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE, ALABAMA	Micrograntee	<p><b>GOAL:</b> To facilitate access to electronic devices and obtain evidence needed to solve crimes and enhance prosecutions and convictions with a specific focus on narcotics trafficking and crimes against children.</p> <p><b>STRATEGY:</b> Expand forensic evidence extraction technology to support Greene County, Sumter County, and Marengo County.</p> <p><b>SUCCESS:</b> The 17<sup>th</sup> District Attorney's Office has acquired thousands of gigabytes of data, including over <b>1,000</b> GB related to crimes against children (CAC) cases and over <b>1,700</b> GB for narcotics-related crimes.</p>
ALLIANCE, NEBRASKA, POLICE DEPARTMENT	Micrograntee	<p><b>GOAL:</b> To improve crime victim services, enhance community trust and engagement, and increase data-driven policing efforts.</p> <p><b>STRATEGY:</b> Distribute community surveys, implement data analytic software to analyze body-worn camera footage, and collaborate with partners to develop best practice training.</p> <p><b>SUCCESS:</b> The Alliance Police Department has received over <b>400</b> responses through Know Your Force with an overall satisfaction rating of <b>90%</b>.</p>
ARMSTRONG COUNTY, TEXAS, SHERIFF'S OFFICE	BJA Grantee	<p><b>GOAL:</b> To enhance the capacity to address sexual assaults and IPV.</p> <p><b>STRATEGY:</b> Upgrade computer-aided dispatch (CAD)/Records Management System (RMS) and deploy MDTs. Train officers on mental health first aid and sexual assault investigations. Purchase cameras, Nik and Evidence Kits, soft body armor for officers, and container light equipment (CLEs).</p> <p><b>SUCCESS:</b> Armstrong County has used evidence kits to document <b>11</b> IPV cases.</p>
ASHE COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA, SHERIFF'S OFFICE	Micrograntee	<p><b>GOAL:</b> To address violent crime that is exacerbated through the prevalence of narcotics use, trade, and trafficking.</p> <p><b>STRATEGY:</b> Purchase narcotics detection equipment to reduce narcotics trafficking and prevent violence associated with narcotics.</p> <p><b>SUCCESS:</b> The Ashe County Sheriff's Office used its narcotics detection equipment <b>eight</b> times to analyze over <b>300</b> grams of methamphetamine.</p>

<sup>2</sup> A BJA Grantee is an agency that received RVCRI funding directly from BJA. As such those grantees request reimbursement and submit reporting metrics through government reporting systems. A Micrograntee is an agency that received RVCRI funding through NPI as a part of its RVCRI TTA Provider award. These grantees request reimbursement and submit reporting metrics directly to NPI.

RVCRI SITE	FUNDING STREAM	RURAL VIOLENT CRIME REDUCTION PLAN
<p><b>ASHLAND, ALABAMA, POLICE DEPARTMENT</b></p>	<p>BJA Grantee</p>	<p><b>GOAL:</b> To address crime-challenged areas with enhanced resources and the use of evidence-based responses, including POP techniques and technology.</p> <p><b>STRATEGY:</b> Identify crime hot spots, implement POP, purchase mobile camera trailer and pole cameras, and upgrade CAD and RMS.</p> <p><b>SUCCESS:</b> The mobile camera trailer was deployed <b>six</b> times in 2023 and has been effective in reducing narcotics distribution and providing vital information to aid in the prosecution of an IPV case.</p>
<p><b>BLAKELY, GEORGIA, POLICE DEPARTMENT</b></p>	<p>Micrograntee</p>	<p><b>GOAL:</b> To enhance the capacity to respond to violent crime, including firearm-related crimes, strengthen community engagement and presence, and increase officer safety.</p> <p><b>STRATEGY:</b> Purchase MDTs to increase officer presence and enhance officer safety.</p> <p><b>SUCCESS:</b> The Blakely Police Department’s MDT use has greatly increased its field presence, which resulted in an overall decrease in violent crime.</p>
<p><b>BLOOMFIELD, NEW MEXICO, POLICE DEPARTMENT</b></p>	<p>BJA Grantee</p>	<p><b>GOAL:</b> To advance investigative capabilities to address a rise in drive-by shootings, assaults, and sexual assaults.</p> <p><b>STRATEGY:</b> Assemble a Violent Crime Center (VCC) to provide access to daily crime trends and data sources in real time.</p> <p><b>SUCCESS:</b> The VCC has been crucial in detecting instances of narcotics use involving juveniles at a local park.</p>
<p><b>COALINGA, CALIFORNIA, POLICE DEPARTMENT</b></p>	<p>Micrograntee</p>	<p><b>GOAL:</b> To enhance investigative capacity to respond to rising gang activity, narcotics trafficking, firearm-related violence, and assaults.</p> <p><b>STRATEGY:</b> Implement an ALPR program in a phased approach.</p> <p><b>SUCCESS:</b> Since installation in August, Coalinga’s ALPRs have been instrumental in <b>two</b> gang-related shooting cases, <b>two</b> narcotics trafficking cases, and <b>one</b> homicide.</p>
<p><b>COMANCHE, TEXAS, POLICE DEPARTMENT</b></p>	<p>BJA Grantee</p>	<p><b>GOAL:</b> To increase investigative ability to reduce narcotics, human trafficking, and child exploitation.</p> <p><b>STRATEGY:</b> Purchase forensic software and ALPRs.</p> <p><b>SUCCESS:</b> In 2023, Comanche extracted over <b>220</b> GB of data for various cases, including <b>90</b> GB for aggravated assault with a deadly weapon and <b>68</b> GB for narcotics cases.</p>

RVCRI SITE	FUNDING STREAM	RURAL VIOLENT CRIME REDUCTION PLAN
COMANCHE COUNTY, KANSAS, SHERIFF'S OFFICE	Micrograntee	<p><b>GOAL:</b> To increase investigative capacity and enhance the integrity of evidence tracking for prosecution.</p> <p><b>STRATEGY:</b> Purchase and deploy evidence management software, cameras, and forensic extraction software.</p> <p><b>SUCCESS:</b> Comanche County has implemented new evidence management software and received positive feedback from its local district attorney's office.</p>
CRAWFORD COUNTY, WISCONSIN, SHERIFF'S OFFICE	BJA Grantee	<p><b>GOAL:</b> To serve individuals in crisis throughout Crawford County.</p> <p><b>STRATEGY:</b> Hire a crisis intervention team (CIT) officer, conduct training sessions, and implement hot spot policing.</p> <p><b>SUCCESS:</b> Crawford County's effort toward reducing violent crime has contributed to positive results in numerous cases, including seizing over <b>400</b> grams of illicit substances and <b>\$34,000</b> in stolen property.</p>
DIVISION OF CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION, SOUTH DAKOTA	Micrograntee	<p><b>GOAL:</b> To support rural South Dakota law enforcement agencies through implementing training and enhancing crime scene investigation and documentation.</p> <p><b>STRATEGY:</b> Purchase a 3D scanner, GoPro cameras, and crime scene kits.</p> <p><b>SUCCESS:</b> The Division of Criminal Investigations has conducted two Rural Crime Scene Investigation Trainings, which trained <b>41</b> attendees from <b>29</b> agencies in South Dakota. The Rural Crime Scene Investigation Training received positive feedback from attendees. Crime scene kits and equipment are in the process of being deployed across South Dakota for agency use.</p>
DOUGLAS, WYOMING, POLICE DEPARTMENT	Micrograntee	<p><b>GOAL:</b> To advance evidence collection capabilities to address narcotics-related offenses and increase officer safety and prosecution rates for these offenses.</p> <p><b>STRATEGY:</b> Support overtime for officers, purchase drug analysis equipment, cameras, and forensic extraction software.</p> <p><b>SUCCESS:</b> Between October and December 2023, the Douglas Police Department assisted Probation and Parole <b>31</b> times. As a result of these assists, <b>11</b> arrests were made for outstanding warrants. The drug analysis equipment has been used <b>38</b> times to safely identify illicit substances for the Douglas Police Department and its partners.</p>

RVCRI SITE	FUNDING STREAM	RURAL VIOLENT CRIME REDUCTION PLAN
<p><b>DUSON, LOUISIANA, POLICE DEPARTMENT</b></p>	<p>Micrograntee</p>	<p><b>GOAL:</b> To mitigate violent crime by implementing evidence-based strategies in assessing crime data and fostering stronger community connections.</p> <p><b>STRATEGY:</b> Hire an officer to serve as a crime analyst and officer in a dual-role capacity.</p> <p><b>SUCCESS:</b> Duson's new officer has completed training at the police academy, receiving the Most Physically Fit award and many academic achievements.</p>
<p><b>ELIZABETHTON, TENNESSEE, POLICE DEPARTMENT</b></p>	<p>Micrograntee</p>	<p><b>GOAL:</b> To advance evidence collection and investigation capabilities to decrease response times and enhance documentation for successful prosecutions and convictions.</p> <p><b>STRATEGY:</b> Purchase a 3D scanner, ALPRs, and an interview room recording system.</p> <p><b>SUCCESS:</b> Elizabethton's ALPRs have been beneficial in recovering <b>14</b> stolen tags, <b>nine</b> stolen vehicles, and stolen property valued at <b>\$70,782</b>.</p>
<p><b>ESPANOLA, NEW MEXICO, POLICE DEPARTMENT</b></p>	<p>BJA Grantee</p>	<p><b>GOAL:</b> To reduce the high violent crime rate by addressing narcotics trafficking and related crimes.</p> <p><b>STRATEGY:</b> Implement an ALPR program and hire a crime analyst.</p> <p><b>SUCCESS:</b> In 2023, the Espanola Police Department purchased additional ALPRs to assist in the reduction of violent crime.</p>
<p><b>FRANKLIN COUNTY, VIRGINIA, SHERIFF'S OFFICE</b></p>	<p>BJA Grantee</p>	<p><b>GOAL:</b> To deter violent and property crime in hot spots throughout the county and increase law enforcement officers' ability to investigate crimes and secure forensic evidence.</p> <p><b>STRATEGY:</b> Purchase surveillance cameras and digital forensic evidence extraction software, enhance the LeadsOnline database, and implement focused deterrence in crime hot spots.</p> <p><b>SUCCESS:</b> Franklin County acquired over <b>13,300</b> GB of data in cases involving child pornography, sexual assault, and hazing. Franklin County presented its experience with forensic extraction software and technology at the 2023 SRLEEA Annual Conference with the RVCRI team.</p>



RVCRI SITE	FUNDING STREAM	RURAL VIOLENT CRIME REDUCTION PLAN
<p><b>GRAMBLING STATE UNIVERSITY, LOUISIANA, POLICE DEPARTMENT</b></p>	<p>Micrograntee</p>	<p><b>GOAL:</b> To enhance investigative capacity and increase campus safety.</p> <p><b>STRATEGY:</b> Purchase and implement an ALPR program.</p> <p><b>SUCCESS:</b> Grambling State University conducted a large-scale survey assessing the student body's perception of safety on campus to ensure students' concerns are being understood and addressed.</p>
<p><b>HANCOCK COUNTY, TENNESSEE, SHERIFF'S OFFICE</b></p>	<p>BJA Grantee</p>	<p><b>GOAL:</b> To update equipment to enhance communication for violent crime response while on patrol in rural areas.</p> <p><b>STRATEGY:</b> Upgrade the RMS, purchase MDTs, wireless hotspots, tablets, and radar units, and implement an AED program.</p> <p><b>SUCCESS:</b> Hancock County conducted <b>300</b> stops using its radar units. These units have allowed officers to better engage with the community and to affect <b>28</b> arrests. This equipment paired with overtime hours funded by a State of Tennessee grant have significantly reduced the volume of illicit substances entering the county thereby reducing related violent crime.</p>
<p><b>JACKSON COUNTY, IOWA, SHERIFF'S OFFICE</b></p>	<p>Micrograntee</p>	<p><b>GOAL:</b> To enhance officer response by establishing a regional training hub with virtual reality (VR) capabilities.</p> <p><b>STRATEGY:</b> Purchase VR training equipment.</p> <p><b>SUCCESS:</b> Jackson County has developed <b>three</b> modules for its VR training system: System Introduction, Co-Responder Model Response, and Crisis Response. Jackson County and <b>three</b> partner agencies' staff have been fully trained to operate the equipment.</p>
<p><b>KENT, NEW YORK, POLICE DEPARTMENT</b></p>	<p>Micrograntee</p>	<p><b>GOAL:</b> To enhance investigative capacity and information sharing to bolster prosecutions.</p> <p><b>STRATEGY:</b> Implement violence reduction strategies through Street Cop training, an ALPR program, evidence tracking software, and enhanced participation in a regional Real Time Crime Center (RTCC).</p> <p><b>SUCCESS:</b> Kent's ALPRs were essential in the investigation of a multi-agency response to a string of commercial burglaries, car thefts, and a gang-related shooting.</p>

RVCRI SITE	FUNDING STREAM	RURAL VIOLENT CRIME REDUCTION PLAN
LAFAYETTE PARISH, LOUISIANA, SHERIFF'S OFFICE	BJA Grantee	<p><b>GOAL:</b> To reduce the number of violent, property, and narcotic-related crimes in rural Lafayette Parish.</p> <p><b>STRATEGY:</b> Upgrade cameras and transmitters in the Real Time Crime Center (RTCC) to provide real-time intelligence and implement hot spot policing.</p> <p><b>SUCCESS:</b> Lafayette Parish has successfully developed heatmaps and identified areas with high rates of violent crime where the upgraded cameras are being deployed.</p>
LANE COUNTY, OREGON, SHERIFF'S OFFICE	Micrograntee	<p><b>GOAL:</b> To increase capacity to conduct forensic evidence extractions to aid victims of violent crime.</p> <p><b>STRATEGY:</b> Purchase forensic extraction software.</p> <p><b>SUCCESS:</b> Lane County has extracted over <b>3,600</b> GB of data for a variety of cases, including over <b>2,400</b> GB for sexual abuse cases. In collaboration with the RVCRI grant for extraction software licensing, the sheriff's office was able to train a new digital forensic investigator.</p>
LEE COUNTY, IOWA, SHERIFF'S OFFICE	Micrograntee	<p><b>GOAL:</b> To increase crime scene investigation and evidence collection capacity.</p> <p><b>STRATEGY:</b> Purchase evidence capture crime scene equipment.</p> <p><b>SUCCESS:</b> Lee County used its 3D scanner to map its local schools and to conduct search warrants involving the manufacturing of narcotics.</p>
LOGAN COUNTY PROSECUTING ATTORNEY'S OFFICE, WEST VIRGINIA	Micrograntee	<p><b>GOAL:</b> To increase the prosecution of violent criminal offenses and facilitate community engagement.</p> <p><b>STRATEGY:</b> Hire an assistant prosecuting attorney (APA) and develop a website and mobile application.</p> <p><b>SUCCESS:</b> Logan County developed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the U.S. Attorney's Office for the APA position.</p>
LONDON, OHIO, POLICE DEPARTMENT	Micrograntee	<p><b>GOAL:</b> To reduce motor vehicle and narcotics-related crime.</p> <p><b>STRATEGY:</b> Implement an ALPR program.</p> <p><b>SUCCESS:</b> The London Police Department's ALPR program has assisted with the recovery of <b>nine</b> stolen vehicles and the execution of <b>nine</b> warrants.</p>

RVCRI SITE	FUNDING STREAM	RURAL VIOLENT CRIME REDUCTION PLAN
LYONS, KANSAS, POLICE DEPARTMENT	Micrograntee	<p><b>GOAL:</b> To effectively improve victim services and investigations in the local school system.</p> <p><b>STRATEGY:</b> Hire an SRO.</p> <p><b>SUCCESS:</b> The Lyons Police Department has developed community relationships and established a partnership with the Children's Advocacy Center (CAC).</p>
MARION COUNTY, WEST VIRGINIA, SHERIFF'S OFFICE	Micrograntee	<p><b>GOAL:</b> To enhance investigative capacity to reduce narcotics-related crime.</p> <p><b>STRATEGY:</b> Implement an ALPR program.</p> <p><b>SUCCESS:</b> The Marion County Sheriff's Office conducted a narcotics seizure, which resulted in the seizure of over <b>one</b> pound of fentanyl and methamphetamine, <b>two</b> stolen firearms, and up to <b>\$7,000</b> in cash.</p>
MARYSVILLE, KANSAS, POLICE DEPARTMENT	Micrograntee	<p><b>GOAL:</b> To reduce violent crime by addressing narcotics-related crime and intimate-partner violence.</p> <p><b>STRATEGY:</b> Enhance officer presence through community-oriented and intelligence-led policing, enhance investigative capacity with surveillance cameras, deploy MDTs, and provide training for personnel.</p> <p><b>SUCCESS:</b> Marysville's personnel have completed various trainings, including the Oklahoma Major Crimes Conference, Northwestern School of Police Command, and Death Investigation training.</p>
MONTICELLO, ARKANSAS, POLICE DEPARTMENT	Micrograntee	<p><b>GOAL:</b> To enhance investigative capacity related to robberies, assaults, narcotics-related, and firearm-related crime.</p> <p><b>STRATEGY:</b> Purchase forensic extraction software.</p> <p><b>SUCCESS:</b> The Monticello Police Department's use of forensic extraction software was essential in gathering <b>166</b> GB of data in <b>five</b> homicide cases.</p>
MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION LIGHTHORSE, OKLAHOMA, POLICE DEPARTMENT	Micrograntee	<p><b>GOAL:</b> To increase investigative capacity to collect evidence in IPV cases and decrease repeat victimization.</p> <p><b>STRATEGY:</b> Purchase forensic extraction software to support the <b>11</b> counties in Muscogee's jurisdiction.</p> <p><b>SUCCESS:</b> The Muscogee (Creek) Nation tribal council has approved and finalized the procurement process for the forensic extraction software.</p>

RVCRI SITE	FUNDING STREAM	RURAL VIOLENT CRIME REDUCTION PLAN
<p>PALATKA, FLORIDA, POLICE DEPARTMENT</p>	<p>Micrograntee</p>	<p><b>GOAL:</b> To enhance violent crime investigative capacity, with a focus on firearm-related crimes.</p> <p><b>STRATEGY:</b> Implement an ALPR program.</p> <p><b>SUCCESS:</b> The ALPRs have greatly benefited the Palatka Police Department's efforts in developing a hotlist of vehicles connected to firearm-related crimes. The ALPRs were also vital in tracking a shooting suspect's vehicle that had fled to South Carolina.</p>
<p>PASQUOTANK COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA, SHERIFF'S OFFICE</p>	<p>Micrograntee</p>	<p><b>GOAL:</b> To advance data analysis and collection to enhance criminal investigations to aid in hot spot policing efforts.</p> <p><b>STRATEGY:</b> Employ the use of data analysis technology and enhance training for personnel.</p> <p><b>SUCCESS:</b> Pasquotank County used its PenLink software to identify the supply source in a multistate-wide fentanyl and cocaine investigation, which resulted in an arrest and the seizure of <b>20</b> grams of cocaine, <b>12</b> grams of fentanyl, and over <b>\$16,000</b> in cash. The county continues to use the software to aid and assist in addressing narcotics-related crime in the county and region. The collection of crime data provides an advanced means of conducting proactive policing.</p>
<p>RIDGE SPRING, SOUTH CAROLINA, POLICE DEPARTMENT</p>	<p>BJA Grantee</p>	<p><b>GOAL:</b> To mitigate violent crime during lower visibility hours and improve the public safety presence within the community.</p> <p><b>STRATEGY:</b> Hire a part-time crime analyst and an additional law enforcement officer.</p> <p><b>SUCCESS:</b> The Ridge Spring Police Department's additional officer has allowed the department to consistently increase its weekly coverage by <b>20%</b> from <b>5</b> days of coverage to <b>6</b> days.</p>
<p>RIVERSIDE COUNTY, CALIFORNIA, SHERIFF'S OFFICE</p>	<p>BJA Grantee</p>	<p><b>GOAL:</b> To reduce violent crime in the Anza and Aguanga areas of Riverside County.</p> <p><b>STRATEGY:</b> Deploy specialty details in these areas in an overtime capacity to address high-crime areas, warrant sweeps, and parole/probation checks.</p> <p><b>SUCCESS:</b> Riverside conducted <b>16</b> deployments in 2023, which resulted in <b>10</b> felony arrests, <b>three</b> weapons violation arrests, and <b>11</b> probation/parole checks.</p>

RVCRI SITE	FUNDING STREAM	RURAL VIOLENT CRIME REDUCTION PLAN
<p><b>SHAWANO, WISCONSIN, POLICE DEPARTMENT</b></p>	<p>Micrograntee</p>	<p><b>GOAL:</b> To enhance investigative capacity with a focus on narcotics-related crime.</p> <p><b>STRATEGY:</b> Hire a detective and implement ALPRs and crime scene documentation equipment.</p> <p><b>SUCCESS:</b> The Shawano, Wisconsin, Police Department (SPD) has conducted over <b>35</b> narcotics-related seizures involving fentanyl, cocaine, heroin, and methamphetamine, resulting in over <b>3,200</b> grams of illicit substances being recovered. In one large multi-agency interdiction in December 2023, <b>71</b> illegal firearms, <b>22</b> suppressors, and <b>1,350</b> lbs of ammunition were seized. Through this work, the SPD has collaborated with <b>eight</b> agencies on investigations, including a <b>50</b>-person interdiction with the Shawano County Drug Task Force and the Northeast Tri-County Drug Enforcement Group.</p>
<p><b>THREE RIVERS, MICHIGAN, POLICE DEPARTMENT</b></p>	<p>Micrograntee</p>	<p><b>GOAL:</b> To increase investigative capacity and monitor potential suspects who enter/leave the community.</p> <p><b>STRATEGY:</b> Implement an ALPR program.</p> <p><b>SUCCESS:</b> Shortly after installation in December, the Three Rivers Police Department's ALPRs were instrumental in locating a missing elderly woman with disabilities, locating a fugitive from the Michigan Department of Corrections, and identifying a vehicle responsible for a hit and run accident.</p>
<p><b>TREMONTON-GARLAND, UTAH, POLICE DEPARTMENT</b></p>	<p>Micrograntee</p>	<p><b>GOAL:</b> To reduce the rate of sexual assaults by fostering safer school environments and educating students on violence prevention.</p> <p><b>STRATEGY:</b> Hire an SRO and establish a training program on dating violence.</p> <p><b>SUCCESS:</b> The Tremonton-Garland Police Department has received school board approval for the SRO position.</p>
<p><b>TUNICA-BILOXI, LOUISIANA, POLICE DEPARTMENT</b></p>	<p>BJA Grantee</p>	<p><b>GOAL:</b> To reduce sexual assaults and IPV on the Tunica-Biloxi Reservation.</p> <p><b>STRATEGY:</b> Expand police patrol capacity by adding overtime hours and specialty details, increase community involvement, and purchase forensic hardware and software.</p> <p><b>SUCCESS:</b> Tunica-Biloxi held a community engagement event for <b>30</b> youth in the community. The attendees learn about interacting with law enforcement, Louisiana law, and how to one day become an officer.</p>

RVCRI SITE	FUNDING STREAM	RURAL VIOLENT CRIME REDUCTION PLAN
<p><b>UNION COUNTY, OREGON, DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE</b></p>	<p>Micrograntee</p>	<p><b>GOAL:</b> To advance investigative capacity and collaborate with Union County's sexual assault, IPV, and child abuse multidisciplinary teams.</p> <p><b>STRATEGY:</b> Hire a part-time DA investigator.</p> <p><b>SUCCESS:</b> The new DA investigator's expertise has led to valued connections with sworn investigators, the District Attorney, and local law enforcement, often acting as a conduit between the DA's office and law enforcement. These relationships have allowed for collaborations on effective investigation strategies and the development of training with an accompanying template for law enforcement to properly articulate probable cause in writing reports.</p>
<p><b>UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA, ALABAMA, POLICE DEPARTMENT</b></p>	<p>Micrograntee</p>	<p><b>GOAL:</b> To advance investigative capacity for rural areas in Alabama.</p> <p><b>STRATEGY:</b> Deploy a mobile digital forensic extraction lab.</p> <p><b>SUCCESS:</b> The University of Alabama Police Department mobile forensic lab is nearing completion. Once finished, the department is prepared to assist with statewide investigations on cases involving crimes against children.</p>
<p><b>WAYNE COUNTY, INDIANA, SHERIFF'S OFFICE</b></p>	<p>Micrograntee</p>	<p><b>GOAL:</b> To advance investigative capacity to reduce narcotics-related crime and increase public safety.</p> <p><b>STRATEGY:</b> Purchase narcotics detection devices and ALPRs.</p> <p><b>SUCCESS:</b> Wayne County recently received its ALPRs and narcotics detection devices and is using the detection device to uncover narcotics being smuggled into the local jail.</p>
<p><b>WINNEMUCCA, NEVADA, POLICE DEPARTMENT</b></p>	<p>BJA Grantee</p>	<p><b>GOAL:</b> To aid investigations to prosecute offenders in violent crimes and fatal traffic accidents.</p> <p><b>STRATEGY:</b> Purchase a 3D scanner to reconstruct violent crime incidents and traffic accidents/fatalities.</p> <p><b>SUCCESS:</b> The Winnemucca Police Department has used its 3D scanner <b>six</b> times to document death investigations, motor vehicle crashes, and juvenile firearm offenses.</p>

In 2024, the RVCRI team plans to continue supporting current and future RVCRI grantees by conducting monthly/bi-monthly check-in calls, identifying future TTA opportunities, and assisting with data collection. The RVCRI team also plans to provide training and event scholarship support to assist grantees in implementing their violent crime reduction plans and give them access to training they may not otherwise receive.



## COMPILE METRICS TO DETERMINE PROGRAM IMPACT

The RVCRI team works with grantees to determine the metrics that will be collected to show the violent crime reduction plan impact, establish the processes for how these metrics will be collected and the parameters for metric reporting, and determine the cadence of reporting. To help RVCRI grantees collect and track violent crime and plan-related metrics, the RVCRI team developed a metrics collection template. This template includes sample formats for collecting violent crime metrics, forensic software usage, equipment usage, and training/event attendance.

Through regular check-in meetings with **45** grantees, the RVCRI team and grantees have compiled metrics for two agencies:

### SHAWANO, WISCONSIN, POLICE DEPARTMENT

- Conducted over **35** narcotics-related seizures for drugs involving fentanyl, cocaine, heroin, and methamphetamine, resulting in over **3,200** grams of illicit substances being recovered.

### UNION COUNTY, OREGON, DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

Deployed a DA investigator from mid-July through early December 2023. During that time, the investigator:

- Followed up on **18** cases, ranging from homicide to narcotics overdose cases.
- Assisted in cases where over **500** grams of illicit substances, including methamphetamine and fentanyl, were seized.
- Helped build a case that could potentially result in state RICO charges.

# RVCRI-SUPPORTED AGENCIES





# THE PATH FORWARD

## 2024

### JANUARY

Launch the Conference and Training Event Scholarship Support Application.

Deliver the Ashland, Alabama, Police Department POP Training and Program Implementation/Management Support TTA.

### MARCH

Announce Conference and Training Event Scholarship Support Awards.

### APRIL

Plan and announce Rural Roundtables and webinars for 2024.

### JULY

Administer the Grant Experience Survey for feedback.

### AUGUST

Launch the online Policy Guidance and Repository.

### ONGOING

Support RVCRI grantee attendance at conferences and training events.

Continue developing and enhancing the RVCRI website.

Continue and expand marketing efforts for the RVCRI.

Continue to identify TTA opportunities as grantees progress in their implementation plans.

The RVCRI team looks forward to continuing to provide high-quality TTA and grant management support to current and future RVCRI grantees and advancing the mission of the RVCRI program.



*Rural*  
VIOLENT CRIME  
REDUCTION INITIATIVE